



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/089,098 | 06/02/1998 | RANDAL LEE BERTRAM | RA998-003 | 2479 |

7590 03/12/2002

JOSCELYN G COCKBURN
IBM CORPORATION 972/B656
P O BOX 12195
RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27709

EXAMINER

HUYNH, CONG LAC T

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
|----------|--------------|

2176

DATE MAILED: 03/12/2002

15

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

W

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/089,098

Applicant(s)

BERTRAM, RANDAL LEE

Examiner

Cong-Lac Huynh

Art Unit

2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 January 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 42-73 and 75-84 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 81 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 42-73, 75-80, 82-84 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: amendment filed on 1/3/02 to the application filed on 06/02/98.
2. Claims 75-84 are added.
3. Claims 42-84 are pending in the case. Claims 42, 43, 49, 57, 63, 71, 75, 81, 82 are independent claims.
4. The rejections of claims 46 and 47 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite have been withdrawn in view of the amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

6. Claim 42 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Regarding claim 42, if at least one space (1st character type), at least one lower case letter (3rd character type), and at least one lower vowel (the 2nd character type can be any type since it is not defined) are removed from a word or a phrase, entries from

Art Unit: 2176

figure 2 can not become entries in figure 8 as explained in the specification. Since at least one includes one to all, there are three cases for removing:

- one space, one lower vowel and one lower case letter: Bytes Sent (column heading 34 in figure 2) may become BytesSn, not BytsS as in column 230 of figure 8
- some space, some lower vowel and some lower case letter: Bytes Sent may become BtsS, not BytsS as in column 230 of figure 8
- all spaces, all lower vowels and all lower case letters: Bytes Sent may become BS, not BytsS as in column 230 of figure 8

7. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8. Claims 75-80 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding independent claim 75,

- in step (d), "selecting a *character* from the N character types" is not appropriate since a character is not a *character type* from the N character types; it should be selecting a *character type* from the N character types
- in step (e), "searching the character string for the selected character type" does not make sense; it is suggested that the phrase be "searching the character string for a *character of the selected character type*" or the like

Art Unit: 2176

- in step (f), in "removing the selected character if detected in said search of the character string", the selected character is not correct since it is *the character of the selected character type*

Claims 76-80 are also rejected as being dependent on the independent claim 75.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 42-73 remain rejected and new claims 82-84 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the applicants admitted prior art, figure 4, of the specification.

Regarding independent claim 42, figure 4 discloses:

- obtaining at least one entry (the table in figure 4 shows more than one entry)
- removing *at least* one character having a first character type if the entry includes that at least one space and if the character type is the first character type, the first character type being a space (removing the spaces in "Disk 1 Workload" in col 38, it becomes Disk1Workload)

Art Unit: 2176

- removing *at least* one character having a second character type if the entry includes that at least one character and if the character type is the second character type (removing upper case letters, Disk1Workload may become Disk1orkload since “W” is *the at least one character of a second character type*)
- removing *at least* one lower case letter if the at least one entry includes the at least one lower case letter and if the character type is the third character type, the third character type being a lower case letter (removing the lower case letters, Disk1orkload may become Disk since “1orkload” are *the at least one lower case letter*)

The prior art does not explicitly disclose defining a first character type as a space, a second character as a lower case vowel and a third character type as a lower case letter.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have modified the prior art to include defining the character types as a space, a lower vowel, and lower character since removing the characters of these types as disclosed above suggests defining these character types.

Regarding independent claim 43 and claim 44, figures 2 and 4 discloses:

- (a) obtaining the at least one entry from the at least one column (figure 2, entries in the columns 31, 32, 34, 36, 38)
- (b) abbreviating a width of the at least one entry (entry System in column 31 in figure 2 is abbreviated into Syste in column 71 in figure 4)

Art Unit: 2176

(c) determining if there is another entry containing text data (not obvious shown in the figure, however, all of the column headings are abbreviated show that this step is performed)

(d) repeating steps (b) and (c) until all of the at least one entry of the at least one column are abbreviated (all of the column headings are abbreviated shows that this step is performed)

(e) displaying the at least one column having the at least one abbreviated entry (figure 4 displays all the column headings in abbreviated forms)

The prior art does not disclose explicitly step(c) determining if there is another entry containing text data. Though it is not obviously shown in the figure, the fact that every entry of the column headings are abbreviated show that for each entry the system determines if there is another entry in the table to perform the abbreviation.

Regarding claim 44, which is dependent on claim 43, as in figure 4, the at least one entry is the column heading.

Regarding claims 45 and 46, which are dependent on claims 44 and 45 respectively, figure 4 discloses removing at least one character of a second plurality of characters if the at least one column heading includes the at least one character where the second plurality of character further includes a plurality of lower case vowels (removing at least one lower case vowel "e" in "Bytes Sent").

Regarding claim 46, which is dependent claim 44, figure 4 discloses the removing of at least a lower case from the column heading 31 in figure 2 (character m is removed).

Regarding claim 47, which is dependent on claim 44, figure 4 discloses removing at least one lower case character if the at least one column heading includes the at least one lower character (by removing the lower case character "m", "System" in column 31 in figure 2 becomes "Syste" in column 71 in figure 4).

Regarding claim 48, which is dependent on claim 44, figure 4 discloses removing at least one space if the at least one column heading includes the at least one space (the at least one space in "Bytes Sent" in column 34 of figure 2 is removed so there is no space in the column heading 74 in figure 4).

Regarding independent claim 49, figure 4 discloses the limitations (b) and (c) as in independent claim 42 rejected above, except the limitation (a) for determining a character type.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have included determining a character type to the prior art to specifically point which character type in the string needs to be removed during the abbreviation.

Art Unit: 2176

Regarding claim 50, which is dependent on claim 49, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have recognized that the entries in figures 2 and 4 are column headings.

Regarding claims 51 and 52, which are dependent on claim 50 and 51 respectively, the fact that all of the column headings in figure 2 are abbreviated to be the column headings in figure 4 shows that repeating steps (b) and (c) for each columns and repeating steps (a), (b), and (c) for all of the columns are performed to get the result seen in figure 4.

Regarding claims 53-55, figure 4 discloses:

- removing at least one character of the first character type if the at least one column heading is wider than a particular column width (upper case character "S" in "Bytes Sent" in column 34, figure 2 is removed so column heading 74 does not include "S" when the column width is still wider than 5)
- removing at least one character of the second character type where the second character type is a lower case character if the at least one column heading is wider than a particular column width (then lower case characters e, n, t are removed so column heading 74 of figure 4 does not include the last e, n, t when the column width is still wider than 5)
- removing at least one character of the third character type where the third character type is a space, in the column heading if the column heading is wider than a particular width if the at least one column heading is wider than a particular column

Art Unit: 2176

width (the space in "Bytes Sent" is removed so there is no space in column heading 74 when the column width is still wider than 5)

Regarding claim 56, which is dependent on claim 55, figure 4 discloses truncating the at least one column heading if the width of the at least one column heading is greater than the particular column width and if the at least one column heading does not contain any character of the first character type, the second character type, or the third character type (the column heading "Bytes Received" is truncated since the width is wider than 5 and it does not contain the space, which is the third character type. Column heading 32 becomes column heading 72 "Bytes" in figure 4).

Claims 57-70 are for a computer-readable medium of method claims 43-56, and are rejected under the same rationale.

Claims 71-73 are for a system of method claims 49, 50, 53-56, and are rejected under the same rationale.

Regarding claim 84, which is dependent on claim 43, figure 4 discloses that the abbreviating step further includes the step of sequentially removing predetermined individual characters until the at least one entry has a width equivalent to a predetermined number of characteristics:

- removing at least one character of the first character type if the at least one column heading is wider than a particular column width (upper case character "S" in "Bytes

Art Unit: 2176

Sent" in column 34, figure 2 is removed so column heading 74 does not include "S" when the column width is still wider than 5)

- removing at least one character of the second character type where the second character type is a lower case character if the at least one column heading is wider than a particular column width (then lower case characters e, n, t are removed so column heading 74 of figure 4 does not include the last e, n, t when the column width is still wider than 5)
- removing at least one character of the third character type where the third character type is a space, in the column heading if the column heading is wider than a particular width if the at least one column heading is wider than a particular column width (the space in "Bytes Sent" is removed so there is no space in column heading 74 when the column width is still wider than 5)
- removing ends when the entry has a width of 5 ("Bytes" is the final result of size 5)

Regarding independent claim 82, figure 4 discloses the limitations (b) and (c) as in independent claim 49 rejected above, except the limitation (a) for determining N character types, N greater than 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have included determining N character types where N is greater than 1 to the prior art since the abbreviation in the prior art shows the removing the *characters of different types*, which are more than one types of characters. In other words, the N character types applied must be greater than 1.

Regarding claim 83, which is dependent on claim 82, figure 4 discloses that at the completion of each of the act C1, C2, C3 comparing a remaining portion of the character string with the character string size and terminating character removal if the remaining portion of the character string equals the character string size (upper case character "S" in "Bytes Sent" in column 34, figure 2 is removed so column heading 74 does not include "S" when the column width is still wider than 5; then lower case characters e, n, t are removed so column heading 74 of figure 4 does not include the last e, n, t when the column width is still wider than 5; the space in "Bytes Sent" is removed so there is no space in column heading 74 when the column width is still wider than 5; "Bytes" is the final result when the entry is of size 5).

Allowable Subject Matter

11. Claim 81 is allowed.
12. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the method of reducing the horizontal space of an entry including removing characters of the first character type defined as a space, removing characters of the second character type defined as a lower vowel, and removing characters of the third character type defined as a lower letter wherein the removing of characters in the entry begins from the last character through the first character of the entry until the string size is not greater than the predetermined size, is not disclosed in the prior art of record.

Response to Arguments

13. Applicant's arguments filed 1/3/02 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argue that the prior art does not disclose the claimed invention. If examiner is relying on the prior art disclosed by applicant's specification, examiner must also accept the shortcomings and problems associated with the prior art by applicants.

Examiner disagrees.

Since the prior art still can read on the limitations of the claims, the prior art discloses the claimed limitations.

Applicants argue that claim 42 as amended and explained the remark, discloses the invention.

Examiner disagrees.

The invention, as explained in the remark, includes the step of *checking the size of the string for a predetermined size and removing of characters beginning from the last character through the first character of the string*. Claim 42 does not include these feature as explained in the remark and as illustrated in figure 7 of the specification.

Therefore, the rejection of claim 42 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph is still applied since there may be the cases as mentioned in the claim rejection for removing characters without caring the string size and without caring how to remove characters in the string.

The other claims 43-73 remain rejected since the prior art still can read on the claimed limitations.

Conclusion

14. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Batchelder et al. (US Pat No. 5,691,708, 11/25/97, filed 8/14/95).

Levin (US Pat No. 4,760,528, 7/26/88).

Nielsen (US pat No. 5,937,417, 8/10/99, 5/7/96).

Heckel (US Pat No. 4,486,857, 12/4/84).

Art Unit: 2176

Howell et al. (US Pat No. 4,459,049, 7/10/84).

Biewald (US Pat No. 5,458,376, 10/17/95, filed 5/20/94).

Abbreviated Typing for Word Processing, IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, 2/79.

Mostert et al., Omni-font character recognition using templates and neural networks,
South African Symposium, 11/9/92.

16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cong-Lac Huynh whose telephone number is (703)-305-0432. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon, can be reached on (703) 308-5186. The fax number to this Art Unit is (703) 308-5403.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

Art Unit: 2176


(703) 308-5403 (for informal or draft communications, please label

"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,
Arlington. VA. Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

clh

3/8/02


STEPHEN S. HONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER